Health cess

2516. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to levy health cess to provide health services to the poor;

(b) if not, the other alternatives under consideration of Government;

(c) whether Delhi High Court has also given its ruling to provide free treatment in the hospitals/Government dispensaries to all those persons whose income is less than Rs. 2000/- per month;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which this scheme is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) There is no proposal at present to levy any health cess for providing health services to the poor.

(b) The Government recognizes the need for stepping up the allocation for Health & Family Welfare through budgetary exercise.

(c) and (d) In a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by Social Jurist, a Lawyer's group, in CWP No. 2866/2002 in the matter of free treatment in private hospitals, the Hon'ble High Court, on 7.2.2006, directed the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi and the Principal Secretary (Health) to forthwith issue directions to all these hospitals and Nursing Homes that Boards in Hindi and English be put up at prominent places indicating that the hospitals and Nursing Homes are providing free treatment to the poor and weaker Sections of the society. The Court further directed that the patient in this category should only sign a declaration that his or her incrome is less than Rs. 2000/- per month which of course will be subject to later verification. The patient will not be denied treatment pending verification of the monthly income.

(e) According to the Govt. of NCT of Delhi, a number of private hospitals were given land on concessional rates with the condition that they would earmark a fixed percentage of their beds for providing free treatment to poor patients. However, as terms and conditions of the allotment of land

can only be enforced by the land owning agencies who had provided the land to these hospitals, the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi is not in a position to set a time frame for the implementation of this scheme.

Examination for recruitment of sportsmen

†2517. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that examinations for the selection of sportsmen for the session 2004-05 were conducted in the Agra division of North Central Railway on the 23rd February, 2005 and 11th March, 2005;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the number of boys who took these examinations;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the results of the above examinations have not yet been declared;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether examinations in additions to the above examinations were conducted for the selection of sportsmen for the said session if so, the date of the same and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NARANBHAI RATHWA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Trials for recruitment of sports persons against sports quota of Agra Division of North Central Railway were done from 23.02.2005 to 25.02.2005 and on 12.03.2005. Total 42 sports persons attended the trials.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Due a shortcomings observed in recruitment process, no recruitment was done in Sports Quota for the session 2004-05.

(e) No trial in addition to the above trials for the session 2004-05 had been done for selection under Sports Quota because for recruitment for the year 2004-05, the last date was 31.03.2005 and no times was left for further trials.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.